

Proposed change to Study Plan – T7 – Project effects on Noxious Terrestrial and Aquatic Plant Species

4.0 Study Area

The study area will include all areas within the Oroville Relicensing Project boundary and downstream Feather River within the levees to the confluence with the Yuba River. Surveys may extend beyond the Project Area where noxious weed populations are thought to affect or be affected by weed locations on adjacent lands (i.e. downstream and upstream irrigation ditches). Surveys may also extend into adjacent lands (if access is available) in areas where high-rated noxious weed species are known to occur nearby or have been found in the vicinity during the current surveys. Maps of known weed locations adjacent to the Project boundary will be obtained from available records (i.e. Plumas National Forest, Butte County Agriculture Department, etc.) and will be used for identification and analysis of management strategies for controlling noxious weed species within the Project boundary. Surveys may be expanded if survey data and information gathered indicate project-related effects influence the dispersal and establishment of noxious weeds further downstream. Study plans approved by the Environmental Work Group define the limits of the study area. If initial study results indicate that the study area should be expanded or contracted, the Environmental Work Group will discuss the basis for change and revise the study area as appropriate.

Proposed change to Study Area for Study Plant T2 – Plants: Project effects on special status species

4.0 Study Area

2nd paragraph

Scope of survey for BLM and USFS sensitive and USFS Special Interest species will include federal lands within the study area, adjacent federal lands outside the study area, and State lands within the study area adjacent to federal lands. Some areas within this scope are inaccessible due to the steepness of terrain and thickness of vegetation, and will not be surveyed.